

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-2, 4-14, 16-25, 27-36 and 38-44 are pending, Claims 1, 9, 13, 20, 24, 31, 35 and 41 having been amended and Claims 3, 15, 26, 37, and 45-47 having been canceled.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 9, 20, 31 and 41 were objected to; Claims 1-2, 5-6, 10-13, 16-17, 21-25, 28, 32-35, 38 and 42-44 were rejected as being anticipated by Park (U.S. Patent No. 5,761,302); Claims 45-47 were rejected as being unpatentable over Sugimura (U.S. Patent No. 6,519,411) in view of Asano (JP 11-224456); and Claims 3, 7-8, 18-19, 26, 29-30 and 39-40 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Applicants appreciatively acknowledge the identification of allowable subject matter.

In reply the objection to Claims 9, 20, 31 and 41 have been overcome by defining the acronym LSI as being a large scale integrated circuit.

In view of the indication of allowable subject matter in Claim 3, the subject matter of Claim 3 has been incorporated into Claim 1. However, for clarity, the term "master key" has been described as a "key", and the disc ID is described as such rather than being described as an ID of a recording medium identifier that is unique to a recording medium. It is believed that the extra descriptive language is not necessary and amended Claim 1 patentably defines over the asserted prior art. Likewise all the claims depend from Claim 1 are believed to patentably define over the prior art. As Claim 15 corresponds to Claim 3, the incorporation of the subject matter of Claim 15 into Claim 13, in the same manner as discussed above with regard to Claim 3 being incorporated into Claim 1, is believed to place Claims 13-14 and 16-23 in condition for allowance. Likewise, independent Claim 24, and independent Claim 25 have been similarly amended. Thus, each of these claims dependent from these independent

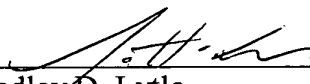
claims is also believed to be in condition for allowance. The subject matter in Claims 45-47 has been canceled.

However, Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation applications to cover the subject matter of the now canceled claims.

In view of the indication of allowable subject matter, and in view of the present amendment, it is respectfully submitted that the presently amended claims place the application in condition for allowance. An action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 03/06)

Scott A. McKeown
Registration No. 42,866

I:\ATTY\BDL\275\275748US\275748US.AM_070906.DOC